German Combat Estimate 1943 + 1941

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July 10, 1941

GERMANY

INTRODUCTORY

- 1. The stability of the present German government appears assured so long as the German armed forces suffer no serious reverse on the European continent. Until such an event occurs, it seems probable that Hitler will continue to enjoy unlimited authority in Germany and that opposition to him within the country will be confined to conspiracies by powerless and numerically insignificant groups.
 - 2. The Armed Forces consist of: --
- (a) The Army; 260 combat divisions, with 40 additional divisions in training; approximately 6,000,000 men; adequate material and ample reserves; tested leadership and high morals.
- (b) The Air Force; 850 squadrons with 11,000 first line planes; monthly airplane production 2,000.
- (c) <u>Navy</u>: small surface navy; strong submarine fleet of 150 units; 20 new submarines constructed each month.
- 3. So far there is no indication that Germany's ability to wage war has in any way been handicapped by her economic position, and she appears strong enough to carry on the present military effort indefinitely. Food is restricted but sufficient. The principle shortages are fats and copper, with petroleum a possible source of worry.

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- 4. German morale continues high due to the victories of the armed forces, diplomatic successes and intelligent organization of the home front. Nothing will change this situation except major reverses in the field, in diplomacy on the home front.

 Such reverses seem highly improbable in the immediate future.
- 5. Knit close to Germany both politically and economically are the lesser states of Hungary, Rumania, Slovakia, and Denmark. With the exception of Denmark, the armed forces of these small nations work in close collaboration with the Reich. Hungary has from 12 to 16 divisions; Rumania from 16 to 20, and Slovakia 3 or 4.